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OMB No. 1024-0018

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form****NATIONAL
REGISTER**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Keim Stone Arch Bridge
other name/site number NEHBS Number JO00-64

2. Location

street & number county road over unnamed stream N/A not for publication
city, town 3 miles east and 1 mile north of Tecumseh X vicinity
state NE county Johnson code 097 zip code 68450

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	<u>Johnson County</u>	Number of Resources within Property	
Category of Property	<u>structure</u>	Contributing	Noncontributing
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> structures
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0Name of related multiple property listing: Highway Bridges in Nebraska, 1870-1942**4. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Bob Richardson DSHPO
Signature of certifying official5/6/92
DateNebraska State Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureauIn my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register
see continuation sheet
☐ determined eligible for the National
Register see continuation sheet
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register
☐ removed from the
National Register
☐ other (explain:)

Entered in the
National RegisterNelous Byers6/29/92

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Function (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

Current Function (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

OTHER /limestone arch

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls N/A

roof N/A

other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Located three miles east and one mile north of Tecumseh, the Keim Stone Arch Bridge spans an unnamed stream in a rural Johnson County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. Other than maintenance-related repairs, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The Keim Stone Arch Bridge today retains a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. A description of the structure follows:

span number:	1	construction date:	1916
span length:	28.0'	construction cost:	\$1121.16
total length:	29.0'	current condition:	good
roadway wdt.:	18.0'	alterations:	none

superstructure: limestone arch

substructure: stone abutments

floor/decking: gravel over earth fill

other features: marble plate on parapet: **Built by Keim Cement Co. 1916**

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

	statewide
Applicable National Register Criteria	C
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	N/A
Areas of Significance	Engineering
Period of Significance	1916 (The period of significance is derived from the original construction date.)
Significant Dates	1916
Cultural Affiliation	N/A
Significant Person	N/A
Architect/Builder (Designer)	Keim Cement Company, Tecumseh NE
(Builder)	Keim Cement Company, Tecumseh NE

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations and areas of significance noted above.

As indicated by a plate on the bridge itself, the Keim Stone Arch was built in 1916 by the Keim Cement Company. The Johnson County Commissioners' Record reveals only one payment to the Keim Cement Company in 1916, on September 4th for \$1121.16. The Keim Cement Company was one of the primary bridge builders in the county, and appears to have been the only builder of stone bridges and culverts. The company made its first claim against the county for stone bridge work in 1906, followed by at least ten other claims for stone bridges and culverts. George Phillip Keim founded the general-construction firm in Tecumseh in 1882. His sons, Peter and Jacob, later joined him, and the company became known as Keim and Sons. The Keim family continued to operate the firm until at least the 1950s. In the early years, the company worked primarily in Johnson, Nemaha and Pawnee Counties. It became involved in highway construction in 1918, and was engaged in highway projects throughout Nebraska by 1956. Major commissions reportedly include the Johnson County Home, the Tecumseh Fire Department building, and "construction of structures on one of the first highway projects in southeast Nebraska - No. 3 highway between Tecumseh and Crab Orchard." The Keim Stone Arch Bridge is a rare, well-preserved example of early twentieth century stone arch bridge construction: the only surviving stone bridge built by this prominent local bridge builder.

For further contextual information regarding bridge building in Nebraska, registration requirements, and property types, see related multiple property listing "Highway Bridges in Nebraska, 1870 - 1942."

9. Major Bibliographical References

Nebraska Department of Roads, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure Number C004913710; **Johnson County Centennial, 1856-1956** (no pub., ca.1956), p. 40 (copy available at Tecumseh City Hall, Tecumseh, Nebraska); Proceedings of the Johnson County Commissioners, 12 June 1901, 8 September 1906, 16 November 1907, 7 December 1907, 9 January 1908, 22 August 1908, 6 October 1908, 28 November 1908, 3 September 1909, 28 September 1909, 4 September 1916, locating in Johnson County Courthouse, Tecumseh, Nebraska; field inspection by Demian Hess, 17 July 1989.

____ See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____ preliminary determination of individual listing
(36 CFR 67) has been requested
____ previously listed in the National Register
____ previously determined eligible by the National Register
____ designated a National Historic Landmark
____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # ____
____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # ____

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State historic preservation office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
____ Other (specify repository:)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre
Cadastral Reference S24/19, T5N, R11E/R12E
USGS Quadrangle Tecumseh Northeast (7.5 Minute Series, 1966)
UTM References zone 14 easting 744220 northing 4475070

____ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is a rectangular shaped parcel measuring 29 feet by 20 feet, which is centered on the UTM point listed above. Included within this rectangular parcel are the bridge's superstructure, substructure and floor system.

____ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated structure includes the bridge's superstructure, substructure, floor system, any approach spans and the property on which they rest. These boundaries encompass, but do not exceed, all of the property that has been historically associated with this bridge.

____ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

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